

Climate change from greenhouse gas forcing has been shown to increase the exchange between the troposphere and stratosphere or decrease the mean age of air at 5-30 hPa. However observations of mean age from observations of SF₆ and CO₂ show an increase. We propose a low cost monitoring program using the same principals of the Aircore developed by Pieter Tans' group that found good agreement between aircraft and Aircore measurements of CO₂. NOAA has funded our development of a StratCore, a smaller stratospheric version, using a small NOAA UAS. We are hoping to prove that a balloon launched StratCore will allow us to get trends of age and trace gases. We also are participating on the Airborne Tropical Tropopause EXperiment (ATTREX) to study water and trace gas exchange.